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**Exploring Guardianship and Broken Windows in the Context of Terrorism:  
How far are there parallels with crime?**

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# Themes and Relevant Questions

What are the similarities / differences between crime & terrorism in respect of:

Offender motivation?

Target selection?

Capable guardianship?

# Guardianship

**Who** are capable guardians against terrorism?

**What** are they guarding against?

**Why** is this important?

**How** does this compare to guardianship against crime ?

**What** can we learn from this (*about the nature of terrorism and crime*)?

# Definitions of Terrorism

“the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives”

**US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**

<http://baltimore.fbi.gov/domter.htm>

“any activity that involves an act that: is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and... must also appear to be intended (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination or kidnapping”

**US Department of Homeland Security**

<http://vlex.com/vid/sec-definitions-19267143>

# Characteristics of Terrorism

- Threats/ violence carried out to advance a political, ideological or religious cause
- Terrorists often sophisticated, highly determined, persistent and well resourced
- Terrorism is more carefully planned than crime & is committed by more determined & well organised individuals & networks
- the *immediate* motive is to complete the operation successfully
- Terrorism evolves to keep up the element of surprise by targeting the unexpected with innovative MOs
- **Terrorism is not random mindlessness violence!!**
- **The rationale underpinning terrorism is not evidence based**

## **CRIMINAL OFFENDERS**

- Nearly everyone commits crime at some point
- Most offenders travel relatively short distances to commit crimes
- Offenders commit crimes within their 'awareness spaces'
- Offenders pick easy, familiar opportunities – one reason for repeat victimisation
- Offenders tend to be generalists
- Risk to offenders is being caught after the act

## **TERRORISTS**

- Generally far fewer offences & offenders
- Use regional, national and international networks
- Terrorists gain knowledge of situations with which they are unfamiliar
- Terrorists seek opportunities that will maximise publicity, impact and fear.
- Terrorists tend to be specialists
- Risk to terrorists is being caught before the act

# Is There a Difference ?

	<b>Crime</b>	<b>Terrorism</b>
<b>Motivated Offenders</b>	Economic Gain Personal Gratification Risk vs Reward	Harm to system, social/ cultural, ethnic groups Ideology/ Religion
<b>Suitable Targets</b>	Property Cash Vulnerable people	Symbolic buildings/ places People in/ near to them (Indiscriminate) Establishment figures Those “colluding” with the enemy
<b>Capable Guardians</b>	Residents, Visitors Employees Surveillance systems Patrols (wardens, police)	Residents, Visitors, Employees Surveillance systems Patrols (wardens, police) Religious Communities

## Introduction to UK's CONTEST Counter-Terrorism Strategy

*“a new form of international terrorism that is different in **scale** and **nature** from the terrorist threats of the past. This new terrorism seeks to inflict **mass casualties** without warning, motivated by a **violent extremist ideology**, and exploits modern travel and **communications** to spread through a loose and dangerous global network”*

# Al Qaeda's Demands

- Cease **all** interference in the religion, society, politics and governance of the Muslim world
- Stop supporting irreligious regimes in the Muslim world
- USA pull out soldiers, security advisers, trainers, attaches from **every** Muslim country in the world
- End **all** aid to Israel
- Stop **all** forms of interference in the educational curricula and media of the Islamic world
- Cease **all** interference designed to alter or destroy the faith, minds, morals and values of the Islamic people

# Symptoms of Islamic Radicalisation

- Very legalistic interpretation of Islam
- Perceived divide between Islam and the West
- Islam & west **irreconcilably** opposed
- coexistence **not** possible
- Isolation from non-Muslims & blocking out western world
- Rejection of alternative interpretations of Islam as incorrect and offensive
- Imposition of extreme interpretation of Islam on others
- Development of political radicalism reinforcing religious extremism

# Broken Windows & Guardianship

'Broken Windows' (BW) is a failure of guardianship

Signals neglect, nobody in control, offenders given 'green light'

## ***Crime***

broken windows,  
graffiti, abandoned  
vehicles, litter,  
disrepair, unkempt  
burnt out properties,  
poor signage

## ***Terrorism***

Indifference to hate  
speech  
Tacit support for  
extremist ideas  
Tolerance towards  
tactics;  
Internet freedom

Assumed mechanisms & Implicit chronology of events from a few Broken Windows to mayhem

**Resolution:** (Re)introduction of guardianship; zero tolerance, reverse neglect, turn around communities

Broken Windows increases crime but what about terrorism?

Is there an equivalent to Broken Windows for terrorism?

# Hate Speech

Speech perceived to disparage a person or group of people based on their social or ethnic group, such as race, gender, age, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, language ability, ideology, social class, occupation, appearance, mental capacity and any other distinction that might be considered by some as a liability *Wikipedia*

Response varies between countries

In the US the First Amendment prohibits government from regulation of free speech except for defamation or incitement to riot.

Even where speech encourages illegal violence, incitement qualifies as criminal only if a threat is imminent

# Hate Speech II

- Hate speech incites and leads to violence only where the listener is receptive to such speech
- Ultimately, racial hatred and incitement is a critical mechanism in genocide as people do not *spontaneously* rise up to kill en mass
- Before genocide can occur, a large number of people must come to condone killing
- The word deed continuum (Freidmann) where words and utterances can become deeds
- The process includes communicating messages of hatred, vilification (a cancer that needs to be cut out), dehumanization (vermin, cockroaches), incitement (you will be wiped out) leading to violence

# Hate Speech III

## **Mahmoud Ahmadinejad:**

repeated calls to eliminate Israel

Israel will be raised from the pages of history.

An end will be put to Israel and the region will be delivered from evil

## **Julius Melema (ANC):**

2010 references to the liberation song "Shoot the Boer" qualified as hate speech and had helped stoke interracial tensions.

**Allowing this without challenge is not capable guardianship against terrorism**

# International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

“direct and public” incitement need not refer exclusively to a speaker haranguing his listeners in person. Incitement might be **transmitted** “through speeches, shouting or threats uttered in **public places** or at public gatherings, or through the **sale** or dissemination, offer for sale or **display of written material** or printed matter in public places or at public gatherings, or through the public display of placards or **posters**, or through any other means of **audiovisual** communication.”

“Broken Windows”, is **indifference or silence** that creates an environment where hate speech and incitement are not challenged. if we do not guard against **receptiveness** to hate speech we are not guarding against support for terrorists, terrorist recruitment and ultimately terrorist acts

## **Remove Excuses**

**Avoid use of controversial weapons(phosphorus bombs)**

**Avoid maltreatment of prisoners**

**Clear rules for interrogation**

**Don't refer to the war against terrorism**

**Avoid war rhetoric which terrorists use as their excuse for violence**

## **Reduce Provocations**

**Don't say bring 'em on !**

**Avoid televised scenes of violence attributed to authorities in response to terrorism**

**Unobtrusive public buildings at home and abroad**

**Clear and consistent rules of engagement**

**Work closely with immigrant communities and host community abroad**

**Clear rules for public demonstrations**

**Avoid provocative announcements**

# Who are the Capable Guardians?

## ***Against opportunities to commit acts of terror***

Residents

Visitors

Employees/Employers

Police

Security/ Surveillance System Managers

## ***Against neglect and “broken windows” allowing terrorism to flourish***

Clerics, community leaders providing counter arguments to extremist ideas (legitimate messengers);

Older generation exerting social control over susceptible young people

Universities, HEIs

Others?

# Guardianship of the Internet

- Is there a broken windows equivalent for threats posed by use of the internet?
- What would constitute 'guardianship' against terrorist use of the internet?
- What would we need to know about internet tactics to guard against them?

# Uses of the Internet by Terrorists

- Psychological warfare – dissemination of hate messages
- Online Indoctrination
- Recruitment and Mobilisation
- Planning & Coordination
- Fund Raising
- Data Mining
- Disinformation

# Dark Web Terrorism Research at the University of Arizona, USA

*The methodology incorporates information collection, analysis of website contents, relationships and activity levels and visualization techniques. The methodology is very useful and promising, having a high potential to assist in investigation and understanding of terrorist activities by producing results that could potentially help guide both policymaking and intelligence research.*

**Website:**

<http://ai.arizona.edu/research/terror/>

# Automated website monitoring

- Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, University of Arizona – the Dark Web – ‘web spidering’ captures 90% of content
- Social Network Analysis & Visualisation
- Content Analysis
- Automatic prioritisation of contents
- Web Metric Analysis
- Sentiment and affect analysis
- Authorship & Writing style recognition

# Dark Web Forum

Collection, Search  
and Analysis

Dark Web has been supported in part by the National Science Foundation (NSF CRI CRD), #CNS-0709338 and NSF (EXP-LA), #CBET-0730908

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<http://ai.arizona.edu>

 Artificial Intelligence Lab  
Management Information Systems  
The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

## Introduction

- Dark Web forums offer members of extremist and terrorist groups a medium to communicate
- Information contained within Dark Web forums represents a significant source of knowledge for security and intelligence organizations.
- We have developed systems supporting the large-scale **collection**, **search**, and **analysis** of Dark Web forums, specifically addressing the needs of security analysts.

### Dark Web Forums



The image displays two screenshots of dark web forums. The left screenshot shows a forum page with a red header and several posts, including one with a large fire graphic. The right screenshot shows a forum page with a blue header and a search bar.

$$\text{Similarity}(A, B) = \sum_{\substack{\text{All links } L \\ \text{b/w } A \text{ and } B}} \frac{1}{1 + lv(L)}$$

$$\text{Activity Index } (c, d) = \frac{\sum_i^n \sum_j^m w_{i,j}}{m \times n}$$

$$\text{where } w_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{attribute } i \text{ occurs in Web site } j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$n$  = total number of attributes in the specified dimension  $d$ ;  
 $m$  = total number of Web sites belonging to the specified Cluster  $c$ .

The closer the activity index is to 1, the more active a cluster is on that dimension. This index reveals in what areas the terrorist groups are active and hence provides investigators and analysts with clues about how to devise strategies to combat a group.

## Message/Window Text

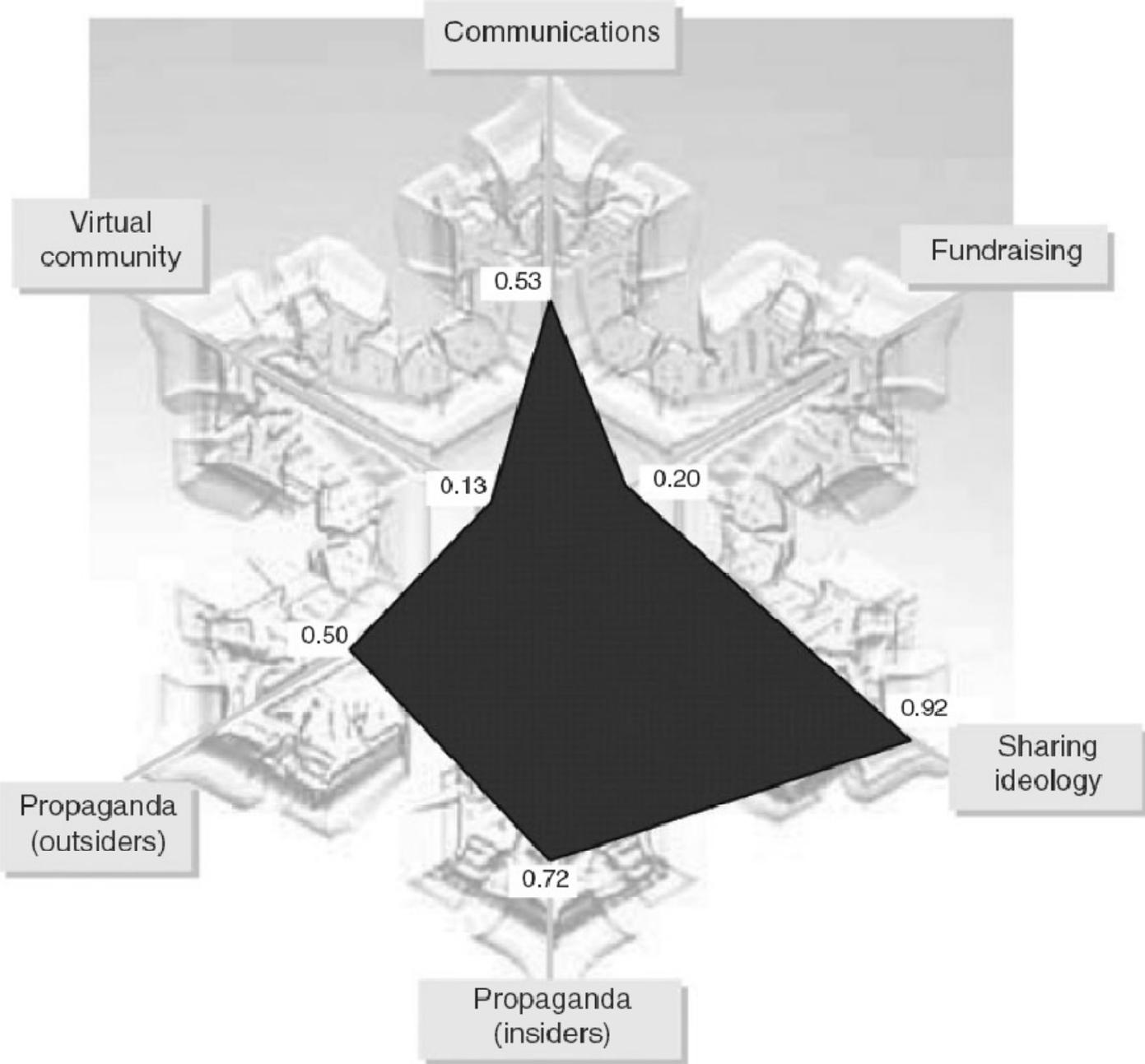
in warplanes and shelling with their howitzers and self-propelled artillery. Our Mujahideen ( **fighters** ) are operational everywhere. Right now it's already getting warm, thank God. Over there, where we downed Kafirs (infidels, invaders) and munafiks (national traitors) **real good** in Tazen-Kala, Ersenoi, Agishbatoi and other places. We have three Shaheeds (martyrs who died in a battle), Insha **Allah** ( **God** Willing). The **fighters** defeated a convoy in Shali too. The Avtury operation has been postponed. A battle took place in the direction of Nozhai-Yurt. Today it was reported that national traitors were ambushed near Ishkhai-Yurt. The same things are happening in Gudermes. Right now we have a lot of work to do. The Kafirs keep shooting and shelling with their self-propelled artillery. - What is the situation like among the Mujahideen? Thank **God** everything is all right. Everybody wants to fight the war. A lot of job is lying ahead this year. **God** Willing. We will drive the Kafirs out if such is the

View

Category



# Cluster 1: Hizballah Cluster



# Counter Terrorism on the Internet

- **Automated** website monitoring (Web crawlers) scanning sites, forums, chat rooms to identify which to attack
- **Defacement of site**
- **Blocking Access** to site
- **Hacking** into & taking control (e.g. of chat rooms)
- Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack bombarding the target site with messages –
- **Spoofing Attack** – impersonation to access systems
- **Routing Attack** - deliberate redirection of traffic on a network
- **Trojan Horse** – Infiltration and subsequent activation
- **Spreading of Viruses and Worms** – Replication and attachment to programs
- **Stealing** Terrorists' Identities
- **Creation** of a phoney terrorist site to spread disinformation for example deliberately wrong instructions for building a bomb that results in death
- **False intelligence** on the location of U.S. forces (in Iraq, Afghanistan) that deliberately lures terrorists into a trap

# Conclusions

Clear differences between 'crime' and 'terrorism' in offender motivation and target selection

Some common ground in 'guardianship' and vigilance although capable guardians may vary

More thinking needed on the implications for guardianship of ideology, purpose, communication, audience and tactics of terrorism groups

Ultimately in extending the discussions on these issues are we venturing beyond environmental criminology ?

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